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AFFILIATED CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO
STATION W60TX

VOL. XVIII

1974

PAARA GRAPHS

PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

MENLO PARK CIVIL DEFENSE RADIO CLUB, KEYOT

F-8.74

PAARAGRAPHS -- The Official Organ of the Palo Alto Amateur
Radio Association and the Menlo Park CD Radio Club.

VOLUME XVIII NO. 2 FEBRUARY 1974

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Cover Design: B. Hagg

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Policies: Membership includes subscription to PAARAGRAPHS

Annual Dues are \$4.00

Subscription to PAARAGRAPHS only \$1.00 a year

Pay up or you might be dropped from the mailings!

Send all negotiables (real live cash or otherwise) to:

PAARA P.O. BOX 911 Menlo Park Calif 94025

Contributions to this illustrious journal GLADLY accepted:

Send your literary contribution to:

Rick Ferranti WA6NCX
1234 Santa Cruz Avenue
Menlo Park, Calif 94025
415-324-1539

OR Gary Perazzo K6LVJ
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Dues are on a calendar year basis so be sure to send in

\$4.00 to PAARA's P.O. Box, listed above.

PARTICIPATE ** READ PAARAGRAPHS ** HAVE FUN

PAARA PICKIN'S -- ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER GONK ---

OUR NEXT MEETING: February 1, 1974 -- at 7:30 PM sharp in
the dearly beloved Menlo Park Recreation Center
PROGRAM: Tom Osborne, WB6BYS, from Hewlett Packard Co
will give a talk on programmable calculators and
some interesting spinoffs. He was one of the prime
developers of the famous HP-35. Let's hope he's
giving away samples!!! Coffee and donuts provided.

****-*****

The Board of Directors will meet: In the Antique Trailer
(if by some miracle it's still standing) in the SRI
parking lot at 7:30 PM local time on Feb. 6, 1974.

-**

THE PAARA NET: is on the air every Monday night at 8:15 PM
local time on 145.24 MHz plus or minus a few kcs. This
is good old AM and is relieving to the ear after a session
on 20 meters SSB. Come on up to 2 meters and blab with
the PAARA gang -- everyone is welcome.

****-*****

Don't forget the SET Jan. 26th --full details were in last
issue of this raucous rag (!). At Any Rate, the times
were from 10:30 am to 4:30 PM local and the freqs. were
145.24 MHz AM or FM and 3908 kHz SSB CW or AM if you
can get away with it down on 80. Check in, say hello,
and pass some traffic to your Aunt Maude in the Bronx.

*****-*****

FREE FREE (and that's something these days) Piles of
old electronics magazines--circa 1960 (they had elec-
tronics back then??) Find out what a CK722 was.
Build a project with that 6D6 you had laying around.
Drop a note to Box 911 or phone Ed Fairbanks at
322-0319 and they'll be stacked up for you at the
next meeting. Relive the good old daze.

*****-*****

--- COME TO THE MEETINGS AND ENJOY YOURSELF -----

MORE PAARA PICKIN'S AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODIES

Unfortunately, Vance, W6FLE is still ill and feeling pretty poorly. Send him a card or wish him good health. Glen Baker, W6UOK, made it back on the air last Monday -- good luck!

****_****_****

PAY THE PAARA DUES -- yes, this means YOU! (if you haven't already, that is) The \$4.00 club dues (a real bargain) and \$1.00 subscription (to PAARAGRAPHS of course) (a genuinely ultracheap price for such great literary contributions to ham radio) are now starting the first of the year so it's easy to remember. Make it a New Year's Resolution. Those dues expiring during the year will be adjusted \$1.00 per quarter, and 25¢ a quarter (a pun?) for subscribers. Send Money (any amount) and we'll adjust. (hmmmmmm....)

*****_*****

WANTED: old style Brown Bros. Twin Lever Key model BTL. Also Need November 1971 issue of QST for my collection. WB6GRZ, Terry Conboy 364-3107.

WANTED: A surplus RF ammeter, with thermocouple. Must have direct reading scale, up to 2 amps RF or 1.5 amps. WA6NCX, Rick Ferranti, 324-1539 wkends.

IMPORTANT ---- Did your XYL or YL2B lose an earring at the Christmas Party? While it came too late for last issue, Mrs. Rowlene M. Jackson, the XYL of W6OWQ, found a silver, chip type loop, about the size of a nickle. Restore serenity to your household and claim your dearly beloved's earring! Call 593-4229 at nite or 591-9443 during the day.

*****_*****

*** PAARAGRAPHS WISHES A GOOD YEAR TO ALL ****

Getting out a bulletin is no picnic.
If we print jokes people say we are silly.
If we don't they say we are too serious.
If we clip things from other magazines, we are
too lazy to write them ourselves.
If we don't we are stuck on our own stuff.
If we don't print every word of all contributions
we don't appreciate genius,
If we do print them the column is filled with junk.
If we make a change in the other fellow's write-up
we are too critical,
If we don't we're blamed for poor editing.
Now, like as not, some guy will say we swiped this
from some other sheet.

WE DID!

de Ed W6AIN who got it
from God knows where!

ARRL ELECTION RESULTS: "Doc" Gmelin and Al Gaetano have been returned to office as Director and Vice-Director of the Pacific Division. Congrats! de CCRC Circle

FLASH! Editor-in-Chief position now salaried!!! Yes, after long months of struggle, ye olde editor has finally been reimbursed. 'Twas only last Monday nite on the PAARA net that our president generously asked me if I would accept a coil of 100% certified coaxial cable, most of which was embellished with a curious form of greenish mold. Is bribery legal?? See what you miss when you don't join the gang on 145.24 mHz??

NETS ON MONDAY NITES: 7:30 PM 145.49 mHz W6WWJ RCCD
7:45 146.00 W6ASH SPECS
All on glorious 8:00 145.49 K6QFO SMCD
Amplitude Modulation 8:15 145.24 --PAARA--PAARA--
Two (count 'em, 2)
sidebands plus a carrier -- Gooney Birds and Twoers
welcome!!!!

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Jan. 9, 1974

Meeting called to order by the president at 1945 local time. Present were Fred, K6YR, Andy, VE3FZK/W6, Paul W6QBY, Terry, WB6GRZ, Ed, W6AIN, Mike G3PPE/W6, Paul Thekan and Hal, W6DEF.

Treasurer's report read, PAARA well into green.

Discussion: A place for the savings account so that a higher rate of interest is paid. Decided that for convenience sake it would be left in Wells Fargo at $4\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Technical Committee report by Andy: FM transmitter works fine. FM converter in the workings by Mike and Andy.

Some discussion of an FM 220mHz repeater. Tabled.

(Come on, guys, it's hard enough to get on 144mHz!!)

Menlo Park CD equipment discussed in order to better prepare for the SET. In order to move antennas around, a work party was organized for Jan 12.

Report by Hal on the meeting held in San Jose by Doc Gmelin W6ZRJ on Saturday, Dec.1. Purpose was to make decisions on controversial items so as to advise Doc and help him at meetings at the ARRL board Meetings.

Discussion of PG&E static caused by line noise. This was in relation to our RACES program. The event chairman for the SET is Mike Eccles.

A discussion of the programs for the year 1974 was led by Andy.

New members: J. Neville Shore, Jr. WB6LVP

John M. Gomperts, WN6ATL

James Bella (no call yet)

Welcome aboard--hope you can participate!

Meeting closed at 2125 local time.

THE GREEN AND GREY GORILLA NET, while of semi-sound mind and body, meets every Sunday night at the dubious hour of 10:26PM local time. Freq. is 146.25/85, on Freaky Modulation. (These guys are For Real!)

*** — *** — *** — ***

HEY---send something (anything) to Ye Editor and get your
name in print -- make it big in the literary world!

PARAGRAPHS ---YES

THE LAST (snif) CHAPTER OF WHY IS JOHN HUBBELL?

by Jerry Cady WAFPSY

For a time, during World War II, John Hubbell was employed as a civilian electrician in a West Coast naval base. One day he was working in the attic of the female enlistees (WAVES) barracks when he heard the sound of running water below. Curious, John peered through a convenient knothole in the ceiling and saw five young WAVES taking their daily showers! He could not dally long at this diversion because it was lunch time and John was anxious to get at his strawberry and sauerkraut sandwich even though this was the first (and only) time John had ever observed wave forms without the aid of an oscilloscope! Unfortunately, just before he left the knothole, John emitted a giant sneeze which startled the girls who promptly donned their robes and called the Shore Patrol who dragged John out of the attic. When confronted by the WAVES, John asked, "Don't you people have any sense of humor? Don't you think this situation is funny? I didn't think WAVES were all that prissy!" The women did not agree and demanded that John be castigated, which is different from castrated, and not as bad. During his short stay in the bastille, while he was reflecting on this incident, John came to the conclusion that the reason these females were so mean about the thing was that they were "square" WAVES!

The following anecdote, while not connected with electricity, should serve to illustrate that John Hubbell had talents in other fields as well as a unique sense of humor. While in his early teens, he had occasion to attend a joint picnic of the local Carpenters and Plasterers unions. The highlight of the day was a contest between individuals on a mock-up wall which the carpenters would lath and the plasterers would plaster to see which guy could do the fastest and best job. As the M.C. was about to start the contest, little John piped up shouting "I want to enter the contest!" The M.C., looking at John askance, snickered, "Well, OK if there's any materials left after the pros finish you can have at it--it might be funny!"

con't next page.....

WHY IS JOHN HUBBELL? Con't....

when

So it was, that the journeymen lathers had finished, there was some warped laths and bent nails left for John to use. Well, to everyone's astonishment, and in spite of the bad materials handicap, John did such a fast and perfect job of lathing the last section of the wall that no one could deny he'd won the lathing contest hands down! As he was presented his trophy, which was a claw-hammer with a gold-plated head and teakwood handle, John was asked to say something. With a broad grin, John uttered these immortal words, which to this day remain as one of America's favorite sayings. John said, "He who laths last, laths best!!".

PAARAGRAPHS thanks Jerry for his great contribution. And, of course, we thank the one and only (real live) John Hubbell himself for letting us print his "life story"!!

****-----****

Do YOU have club crystals (8068kHz) which you aren't using and are for the PAARA net??? If so, bring them to the next club meeting or drop them in Box 911 in Menlo Park's Posty Office.

-----*****-----

Do YOU have any speakers you know who could come and give a talk to our club some Friday evening? If so, contact the Pres Fred Canham, K6YT or ye hurried harried editor.

PAARA has some really nice name tags which are available on order from the president (FRED) at any meeting. They are fairly large, come in two colors on laminated plastic with Your name and Your call splashed all across it in a manner befitting to any PAARA member! Not too expensive (less than \$2.00), a truly amazing phenomena in this age of Watergate, energy crunch, and crunched stocks.

SUPPORT PAARA!

A NOTE ON CIVIL DEFENSE

de Hal Moore, W6DEF, E.C.

The ARRL uses the phrase "in your area" in several cases. For instance, the messages to the Office of Emergency Services from the Civil Defense people in the communities "in your area". Also the messages going to the Section Emergency Coordinator from hams "in your area". I am the Emergency Coordinator for the Redwood City, Menlo Park Area which includes Atherton, Woodside, Portola Valley, and East Palo Alto. It is my contention that if you attend PAARA meetings or check into the Redwood City CD net regularly you are in my area even though you may live in San Carlos, Palo Alto, Mountain View or Sunnyvale. Also I have several on my AREC list who are members of the Southern Peninsula Emergency Communications System and they live in Atherton or Menlo Park. I have kept them on my list over the years because they are in a position to perform liaison duty between our several CD nets. I hope that the above explanation is clear but if someone wants a verbal "go-round" I'll be glad to elucidate.

*****-----*****

ABOUT THE CCRC --- FROM THE CCRC CIRCLE

THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA RADIO COUNCIL was formed in 1951 to coordinate AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS in the nine Bay Area counties to present a unified front and to interchange mutual aid information. The CCRC is not another club---it is a group comprised of club delegates and other interested people meeting the first Wednesday monthly at the NPEC Clubhouse in the back of the QTH of W6QIE, 222 Alta Vista Dr., South San Francisco, Ca.

-----*****-----

Did you know that a Bird VHF wattmeter/dummy load connected to my DX-100 shows downward modulation when you blab into the stupid thing while a light bulb will show up-modulation? Do you care? (A Genuine Filler)

FROM HAWKIN'S ELECTRICAL GUIDE, NO. 8, circa 1917

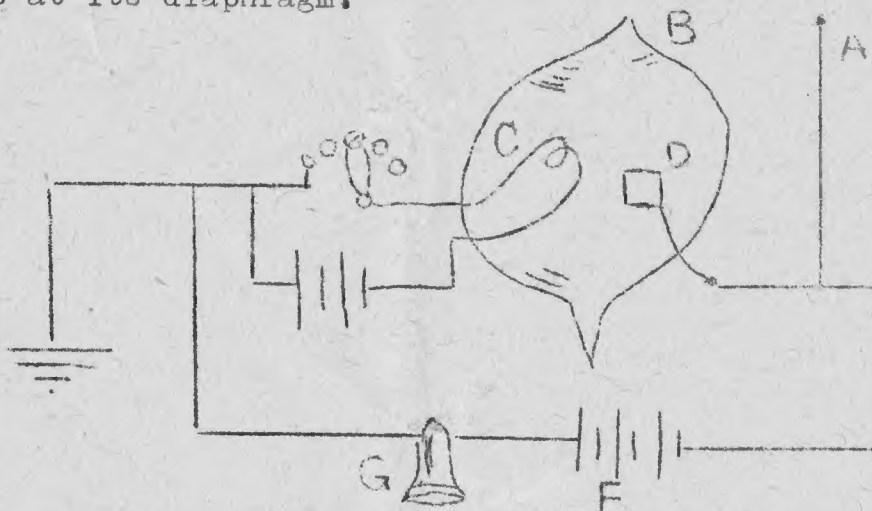
A list of equipment for the modern amateur wireless station:

- 1) Thordarson flexible transformer on slate base
- 2) rotary spark gap in box with glass side and end
- 3) Murdock molded sending condenser units
- 4) Clapp-Eastman kickback preventer
- 5) Electro Importing Co's $\frac{1}{2}$ kw transformer
- 6) Gernback electrolytic interrupter
- 7) 25 ampere DPST power switch
- 8) power supply, AC or DC (in conduit)
- 9) oscillation transformer
- 10) Brandes hot wire ammeter
- 11) Electro-se lead-in insulator
- 12) 25 ampere DPST switch controlling current to transformer and rotary spark gap motor
- 13) Marconi wireless key
- 14) anchor gap in ground wire circuit
- 15) Gernsback rotary variable condenser
- 16) Clapp-Eastman navy-type tuner
- 17) fixed condenser
- 18) silicon detector
- 19) 10 ampere 3PDT switch for detectors and receivers
- 20) De Forest audion detector bulb
- 21) battery switchboard for audion
- 22) leads from anchor gap to receiving set
- 23) head receiver set
- 24) battery box containing battery cells for audion lamp and head telephone receivers
- 25) kickback ground wire

The accompanying illustration is really a sight to behold. While it was impossible to reproduce here, the operating table was covered with wiring, weird detecting circuits, and a strange looking double helix of wire, probably the "flexible transformer". The rotary spark gap is on the floor, heaven knows how the operator escaped frying himself while operating. Does anyone really know what on earth a "Clapp-Eastman kickback preventer" is??????

Another Excerpt from HAWKINS ELECTRICITY Circa 1917

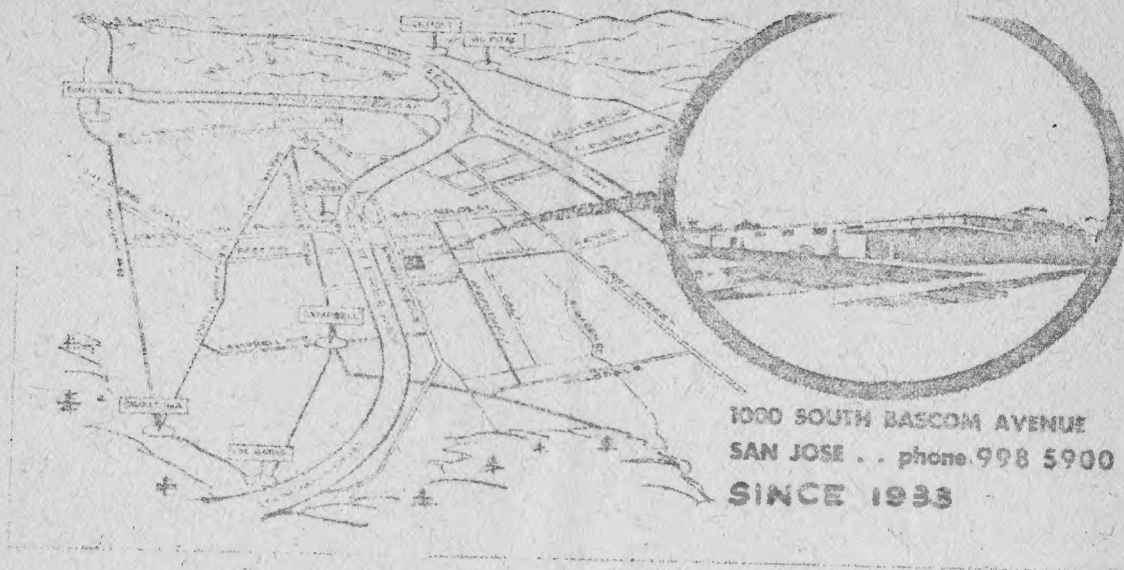
All wave receiving set: Audion type detector used in the DeForest system. The receiving aerial A is associated with the audion B, consisting of an evacuated glass bulb containing two electrodes, one of which, C, is an incandescent lamp filament receiving current from a low voltage storage battery, the strength of the current being varied at will by means of a reostat. The other electrode D is a platinum wire connected to the positive pole of the battery F, in the local circuit external to the bulb, and including the telephone receiver G. The passage of the electric oscillations across the gap between the electrodes C and D causes the variations in the current through the telephone receiver, thus producing sounds at its diaphragm.



A tuning coil is necessary to separate messages when several stations are sending at the same time, but a good operator can sometimes read through interference without it. (OK, guys, try that on 20 meters someday!)

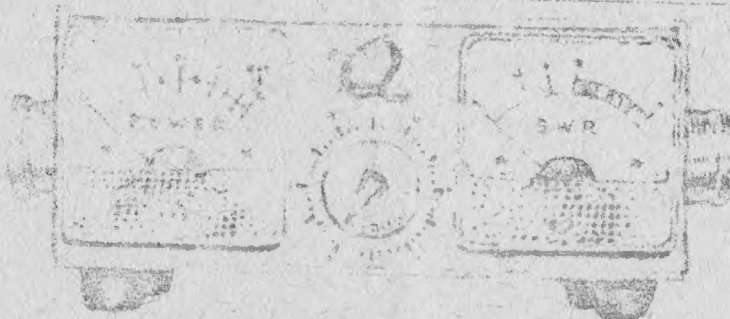
Next month: The electrolytic detector ++ from the 1923 edition of the I.C.S. Handbook for Radio Operators.

PARAGRAPHS ---- ALWAYS UP WITH THE TIMES



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